NUMB. VI.

The GUARDIAN.

Wednesday, March 18. 1713.

I Have diſpatched my young Women, and the Town has them among them; it is neceſſary for the Elucidation of my future Diſcourſes, which I deſire may be denominated, as they are the Precepts of a Guardian, *Mr.* Ironſide's *Precautions*: I ſay it is, after what has been already declared, in the next place neceſſary to give an Account of the Males of this worthy Family, whoſe Annals I am writing. The Affairs of Women being chiefly Domeſtick, and not made up of ſo many Circumſtances, as the Duties of Men are, I fear I cannot diſpatch the Account of the Males under my Care in ſo few Words as I did the Explanation which regarded my Women.

Sir *Harry Lizard*, of the County of *Northampton*, Son and Heir of the late Sir *Marmaduke*, is now entered upon the twenty ſixth Year of his Age, and is now at his Seat in the Country.

The Eſtate at preſent in his Hands is above three Thouſand a Year after Payment of Taxes, and all neceſſary Charges whatſoever. He is a Man of good Underſtanding, but not at all what is uſually called a Man of ſhining Parts. His Virtues are much greater than his Accompliſhments, as to his Converſation. But when you come to conſider his Conduct with relation to his Manners and Fortune, it would be a very great Injury not to allow him a very fine Gentleman. It has been carefully provided in his Education, that he ſhould be very ready at Calculations. This gives him a quick alarm inwardly upon all Undertakings, and in a much ſhorter time than is uſual with Men, who are not verſed in Buſineſs, he is Maſter of the Queſtion before him, and can inſtantly inform himſelf with great exactneſs in the matter of Profit or Loſs that ſhall ariſe from any thing propoſed to him. The ſame Capacity, joined to an honeſt Nature, makes him very juſt to other Men, as well as to himſelf. His Payments are very punctual, and I dare anſwer, he never did, or ever will, undertake any piece of Building, or any Ornamental Improvement of his Houſe, Garden, Park or Lands, before the Mony is in his own Pocket, wherewith he is to pay for ſuch Undertaking. He is too good to purchaſe Labourers or Artificers (as by this means he certainly could) at an under rate; but he has by this means what I think he deſerves from his ſuperior Prudence, the choice of all who are moſt knowing and able to ſerve him. With his ready Mony the Builder, Maſon and Carpenter are enabled to make their Market of Gentlemen in his Neighbourhood, who inconſiderately employ them; and often pay their Undertakers by Sale of ſome of their Land: Whereas, were the Lands on which thoſe Improvements are made, ſold to the Artificers, the Buildings would be rated but as Lumber in the Purchaſe. Sir *Harry* has for ever a Year's Income, to extend his Charity, ſerve his Pleaſures, or regale his Friends. His Servants, his Cattle, his Goods ſpeak their Maſter a rich Man. Thoſe about his Perſon, as his Bailiff, the Groom of his Chamber, and his Butler, have a chearful, not a gay Air; the Servants below them ſeem to live in Plenty, but not in Wantonneſs. As Sir *Henry* is a young Man, and of an Active Diſpoſition, his beſt Figure is on Horſeback. But before I ſpeak of that I ſhould acquaint you, that during his Infancy all the young Gentlemen of the Neighbourhood were welcome to a part of the Houſe, which was called the School; where at the Charge of the Family, there was a Grammar Maſter, a plain ſober Man, maintained (with a Sallary, beſides his Diet, of Fifty Pounds a Year,) to inſtruct all ſuch Children of Gentlemen, or lower People, as would partake of his Education. As they grew up, they were allowed to ride out with him upon his Horſes. There were always ten or twelve for the Saddle, in a readineſs to attend him and his Favourites, in the Choice of whom he ſhowed a good Diſpoſition, and diſtributed his Kindneſs among them, by Turns, with great Good-Nature. All Horſes, both for the Saddle, and ſwift Draught, were very well bitted, and a skilful Rider, with a Riding-Houſe, wherein he the Riding-Maſter commanded, had it in Orders to teach any Gentleman's Son of the County that would pleaſe to learn that Exerciſe. We found our Account in this Proceeding, as well in real Profit, as in Eſteem and Power in the Country; for as the whole Shire is now poſſeſſed by Gentlemen, who owe Sir *Harry* a part of Education, which they all value themſelves upon, their Horſemanſhip; they prefer his Horſes to all

(Price Two Pence.)

others, and it is 10 *per Cent.* in the Price of a Steed, which appears to come out of his Riding-House.

By this means it is, that Sir *Harry*, as I was going to say, makes the best Figure on Horseback, for his usual Hours of being in the Field are well known; and at those Seasons, the Neighbouring Gentlemen, his Friends and School-fellows, take a pleasure in giving him their Company, with their Servants well behaved, and Horses well commanded.

I cannot enough applaud Sir *Harry* for a particular Care in his Horses. He not only bitts all which are ridden, but also all which are for the Coach or swift Draught, for Grace adds mightily to the Price of Strength; and he finds his Account in it at all Markets, more especially for the Coach or Troop Horses, of which that County produces the most strong and ostentatious. To keep up a Breed for any Use whatever, he gives Plates for the best performing Horse in every way in which that Animal can be serviceable. There is such a Prize for him that *trots best*, such for the *best Walker*, such for the *best Galloper*, such for the *best Pacer*; then for him who *draws most* in such a Time to such a Place, then to him that *carries best* such a *Load* on his Back. He delights in this, and has an admirable Fancy in the Dress of the Riders: Some admired Country Girl is to hold the Prize, her Lovers to trot, and not mend their Pace into a Gallop, when they are out-trotted by a Rival; some known Country Wit to come upon the best Pacer; these and the like little joyful Arts, gain him the Love of all who do not know his Worth, and the Esteem of all who do. Sir *Harry* is no Friend to the Race-Horse, he is of Opinion it is inhuman, that Animals should be put upon their utmost Strength and Metal for our Diversion only. However, not to be particular, he puts in for the Queen's Plate every Year, with Orders to his Rider never to win or be distanced; and, like a good Country Gentleman, says, It is a Fault in all Ministries, that they encourage no kind of Horses but those which are swift.

As I write Lives, I dwell upon small Matters, being of Opinion, with *Plutarch*, that little Circumstances show the real Men better than things of greater Moment. But good Oeconomy is the Characteristick of the *Lizards*. I remember a Circumstance about six Years ago, that gives me hopes he would one time or other make a figure in Parliament; for he is a Landed Man, and considers his Interest, tho' he is such, to be impaired or promoted according to the State of Trade. When he was but twenty Years old, I took an Opportunity in his Presence, to ask an Intelligent Woollen-draper, what he gave for that Shop, the Corner of *Change-Alley*? The Shop is, I believe, 14 Foot long, and 8 broad. I was answer'd, Ninety Pound a Year. I took no Notice, but the Thought descended into the Breast of Sir *Harry*, and I saw on his Table the next Morning, a Computation of the value of Land in an Island, consisting of so many Miles, with so many good Ports; the value of each part of the said Island, as it lay to such Ports, and produced such Commodities. The whole of his working was to know why so few Yards, near the *Change*, was so much better than so many Acres in *Northamptonshire*, and what those Acres in *Northamptonshire* would be worth, were there no Trade at all in this Island.

It makes my Heart ake, when I think of this young Man, and consider upon what plain Maxims, and in what ordinary Methods Men of Estate may do good where-ever they are seated, that so many should be what they are! It is certain, that the Arts which purchase Wealth or Fame, will maintain them, and I attribute the Splendor and long Continuance of this Family, to the Felicity of having the Genius of the Founder of it run through all his Male Line. Old Sir *Harry*, the Great Grandfather of this Gentleman, has written in his own Hand upon all the Deeds, which he ever signed in the Humour of that sententious Age, this Sentence, *There are four good Mothers, of whom are often born four unhappy Daughters; Truth begets Hatred, Happiness Pride, Security Danger, and Familiarity Contempt.*

This Paper is to be had at Mr. Yemes *under the* Thatch'd-house *Tavern in St.* James's-street; *Mrs.* Bond *at* Charing-cross; *Mrs.* Bolter *near the* Temple-gate; *and Mr.* Round *in* Exchange-Ally.

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